

Yazoo Planters Cotton Gin and Yazoo County Development Foundations. He also served our State and Nation as a commissioned officer in the Mississippi National Guard.

I am pleased to join the people throughout my State in commending Harry Simmons, Jr., and sharing our appreciation with his wife, Shirley, and their children, Emily and Katy, and grandson, Miller, as the 82nd annual meeting of the Delta Council membership convenes in June.●

RECONIZING JEROME D. MACK MIDDLE SCHOOL

● Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, today I am honored to congratulate the Jerome D. Mack Middle School, in Las Vegas, NV, for earning the School Innovation and Change Award, SICA. On June 1, 2017, a representative of the National Principals Leadership Institute will join with Mack Middle School to recognize this achievement formally to a gathering of 700 parents, students, and teachers.

This award recognizes Mack Middle School's principals, teachers, staff, and students for their efforts to embrace new and innovative strategies for educational improvement. To win this award, Mack Middle School submitted a competitive application to the National Principal Leadership Institute that included a school profile, a school changes story, documents supporting those changes, a reflection of innovation, a sustainability plan for how a \$10,000 award would be used, and a description of community building.

Earning this award is no easy feat. In its improvement efforts, Mack Middle School has seen many upgrades in technology and pedagogy that mark demonstrable change. Every student now receives a laptop computer, and all assignments are completed on a virtual classroom portal. Students are taught to critically self-assess their own abilities and have learned to improve their skills to new levels of mastery. Their principal is a nationally board certified teacher and a nationally accredited principal mentor. Ten of their teachers attend national board certification classes, and approximately 390 of their students will earn high school credits this year. All this to say Mack Middle School is more than deserving of this award.

Moreover, these changes have positively affected the campus dynamic as teachers are excited about their work and students take charge of their education plans. More community center than a school, Mack Middle School has become a hub where parents and students alike partake in use of the school's athletic fields and even the school's Wi-Fi signal. In an area that is too often marred by high crime and poverty, the school stands as a beacon of what is possible when teachers are engaged in their community and where parents take an active role in their students' lives. Mack Middle School is

an inspiration for East Las Vegas and the greater Nevada community.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Jerome D. Mack Middle School for their hard work, innovative approaches to education, and their efforts to improve educational outcomes for students in East Las Vegas.●

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM "BILL" AUSMUS

● Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, this week, I have the distinct honor of recognizing William "Bill" Ausmus of Hardin, a World War II Army veteran who celebrated his 100th birthday earlier this month. Bill has been involved with a variety of community organizations in Big Horn County for many years, helping countless Montanans along the way. His accomplishments are something we can all celebrate.

After his World War II military service concluded, Bill spent almost seven decades serving in his local American Legion Post 8 and remained in an active capacity with the post into his nineties. His professional vocation was serving as the Big Horn County surveyor and, for a time, the assessor. These vital positions afforded him the opportunity to interact with and provide useful help to many in his local community. Bill developed a reputation for accuracy and customer service in his professional work. He was also integral in the formation of his local Methodist Church and is known for his volunteerism and generous donations to community projects and causes.

The longevity of his many endeavors and willingness to help others along the way serves as an inspiration to us all. When looking back through the history of Big Horn County during the past century, it is clear that Bill has been key contributor. Congratulations, Bill, on your recent 100th birthday, and thank you for your service.●

TRIBUTE TO CLAIRE ALISON

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Claire Alison, an intern in my Washington, DC, office for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Claire is a graduate of El Camino Real Charter High School in Los Angeles, CA. Currently, she is attending California State University, Northridge, where she is majoring in history. Claire is a dedicated worker who has been committed to getting the most out of her experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Claire Alison for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH SCHATZ

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Joseph Schartz, an intern in my Washington, DC office for all of the

hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Joseph is a graduate of South Dakota State University in Brookings, SD, having earned a degree in journalism. Currently, he is attending the Georgetown University McCourt School of Public Policy, where he is pursuing his master's in public policy. Joseph is a dedicated worker who has been committed to getting the most out of his experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Joseph Schartz for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:34 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 467. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure that each medical facility of the Department of Veterans Affairs complies with requirements relating to scheduling veterans for health care appointments, to improve the uniform application of directives of the Department, and for other purposes.

H.R. 624. An act to restrict the inclusion of social security account numbers on Federal documents sent by mail, and for other purposes.

H.R. 953. An act to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to clarify Congressional intent regarding the regulation of the use of pesticides in or near navigable waters, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1293. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to require that the Office of Personnel Management submit an annual report to Congress relating to the use of official time by Federal employees.

H.R. 2052. An act to amend the Uniform Code of Military Justice to prohibit the wrongful broadcast or distribution of intimate visual images.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 14. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to celebrate the birthday of King Kamehameha I.